

Southern Flyer



908th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command), Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala., Vol. 39, Issue 11, November 2002

Coronet Oak mission offers choice location, job satisfaction

Rotation in paradise

By Jeff Melvin
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

If it seems too good to be true, chances are it is except in the case of the 120 or so 908th Airlift Wing people who deployed to Coronet Oak Aug. 24 through Sept. 14 and probably pinched themselves periodically just to make sure they weren't dreaming. The sun, sand and sea were for real and so were the missions.

Based at Muñoz Air National Guard Base, in the heart of San Juan, Puerto Rico, Coronet Oak is U.S. Southern Command's airlift arm. Since the late 1970s, Reserve and Air National Guard aircrews have provided SOUTHCOM with logistics and contingency support throughout Central and South America. Call it "Air Latin America."

The mission moved to Puerto Rico from Howard Air Force Base, Panama, which closed in 1999.

Coronet Oak is a key mission, said Col. Louis Wright, commander of the nine-person (three ANG, three AF Reserve and three active duty AF) 35th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron that oversees the mission. The 35th EAS' primary responsibility is to provide continuity.

"I put it to the mission commanders, 'We keep the river boat in the river, where you go in the river is up to you to some degree, but we keep you in the main channel,'" Wright said, noting that the people who deploy to Coronet Oak are all qualified and all know their jobs.

"But no matter who does this duty, or where they're from, there's no training going on here," Wright said. "We fly real-world missions."

Each Saturday, units rotate in as a "package" for

a 15-day tour. An "A package" has 58 people and a "B package" 59. So there are always 117 people on board for Coronet Oak. Each package has at least 26 maintenance troops, 18 aircrew members with the rest being support staff.

There's a one-week overlap between units. Units get one day to adapt to the culture and begin flying the next.

Coronet Oak aircrews are on alert to airlift special forces wherever in Central America, the northern part of South America and the Caribbean they might be needed. One of the four C-130s on Muñoz's parking ramp is always on alert.

Since airlift of special forces doesn't happen often, aircrews support other airlift requirements. Most involve transporting of passengers and cargo, but the C-130s also help in hurricane and flood relief efforts. They also resupply embassies in the region.

There are no 'routine' missions, Wright said. "Everything is different everywhere you go." He cautions incoming personnel to "Be on you toes. Don't accept or assume anything."

In the past, units volunteered to fly Coronet Oak. Now units pull Coronet Oak duty as an expeditionary aerospace force rotation.

For deploying members Coronet Oak has an appeal perhaps even greater than its location, practical experience.

"Anytime you can deploy out of here as a team and go somewhere and fulfill a real world mission, that's beneficial. All of the personnel involved really get a lot out of it because they know that it's not just training. Training has its place and we do our job no matter what, but in a real

Continued on Pages 4 and 5



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Turboprop mechanic Staff Sgt. Bishop Cochran inspects an engine on the Muniz ANG Base, Puerto Rico, flightline following a Coronet Oak mission.

Exercise caution, use good judgement during approaching holiday period



By Col. James Stewart
908th Airlift Wing commander

The holidays will soon be upon us. It's time to eat, drink and be merry...right? Well...yes and no. While I certainly hope you will have a great time over the holidays...I also want you to remain alert in two critical

areas: Safety and Security.

Many of us will head "over the river and through the woods" to visit family during the holidays. However, please make sure you are rested and alert before you hit the road. Also, inspect your vehicle and make sure it is in good repair. While on your trip, stop and stretch your legs every hour or two to remain alert. Stop and rest before you lose the sharp attention required for defensive driving. Most importantly, don't drink and drive. As you know, it's both hazardous to your life...and your career.

WEAR YOUR SEATBELTS!!!
Recently our safety office surveyed member seatbelt use...and the results were disturbing. Only 80 percent of you are wearing your safety belt. Folks, you are required to wear seat belts by Air Force Instruction and state law. It takes just a second to buckle up. If you have an accident...seatbelts can make the difference between minor injuries or possible life in a wheel chair or death. The choice is yours, but I'd choose minor injuries with the belt on.

Looking at the world situation right now, it seems we

are edging closer to confrontation with Iraq and the Islamic extremists allied with Al Qaeda. Saddam and Al Qaeda have both threatened to lash out and bring the fight to our shores. Stay alert to the environment around you for potential threats. If you see anything strange, report it to Security Forces, OSI, or your local law enforcement agency as appropriate.

You are valuable to us, and to your family. Take care of yourself for them and for the nation who may urgently need your services and experience in the months and years to come.

Take time to think about what you are most thankful for

by Chaplain (1st Lt.) James Danforth, 908AW staff chaplain



In a typical day think of all the things you are thankful for. If I were to ask you, you might say things like family, health, or freedom. You might even mention food, housing, or safety. You might even think of some smaller items like, electricity, hot water,

TV, radio, computers, or microwaves.

We are thankful for so many things. Some items are essentials for life - others are mere conveniences. Many of the things we should be most thankful for -- we take for granted, things like freedom, faith, grace, scripture, or God's blessings.

Thanksgiving is just a few weeks away. Many of us will be with those we love during this time. Take time to think about what you are most thankful for.

Also, during this time, lift a prayer to God. It is from God whom all our blessings flow and to him we are most thankful.

Junior enlisted get to experience leadership development training this spring

Wing enlisted people interested in attending the next NCO Leadership Development Program session, should contact their unit training managers to complete an AF Form 101.

NCOLDP is designed for mid-level enlisted personnel (E-4 minimum grade), preferably before or during the time that they are supervisors.

Class size can't exceed 25.

The AFRC NCO Leadership Development Program offers college credit and hands-on experience in leadership and management. The curriculum addresses theories and concepts of leadership and management. The hands-on sessions stress real life situations. An integral component of the program is the blending

of personnel from different AFSCs. Additionally, team-building exercises and grass roots team projects introduce the participants to quality concepts and provide an opportunity to interface with the participants' commander.

The course includes 10 days of instruction covering two phases. Phase I consists of three academic

days conducted by a civilian instructor and two days conducted by military facilitators. Phase II consists of three academic days with a civilian instructor and two days with military facilitators also. Unit requirements determine how often the course is offered. Phase I of the next session will be held April 7-11; Phase II May, 5-9.



Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

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We solicit articles, drawings and photographs and reserve the right to edit materials to conform to "Southern Flyer" editorial policies.

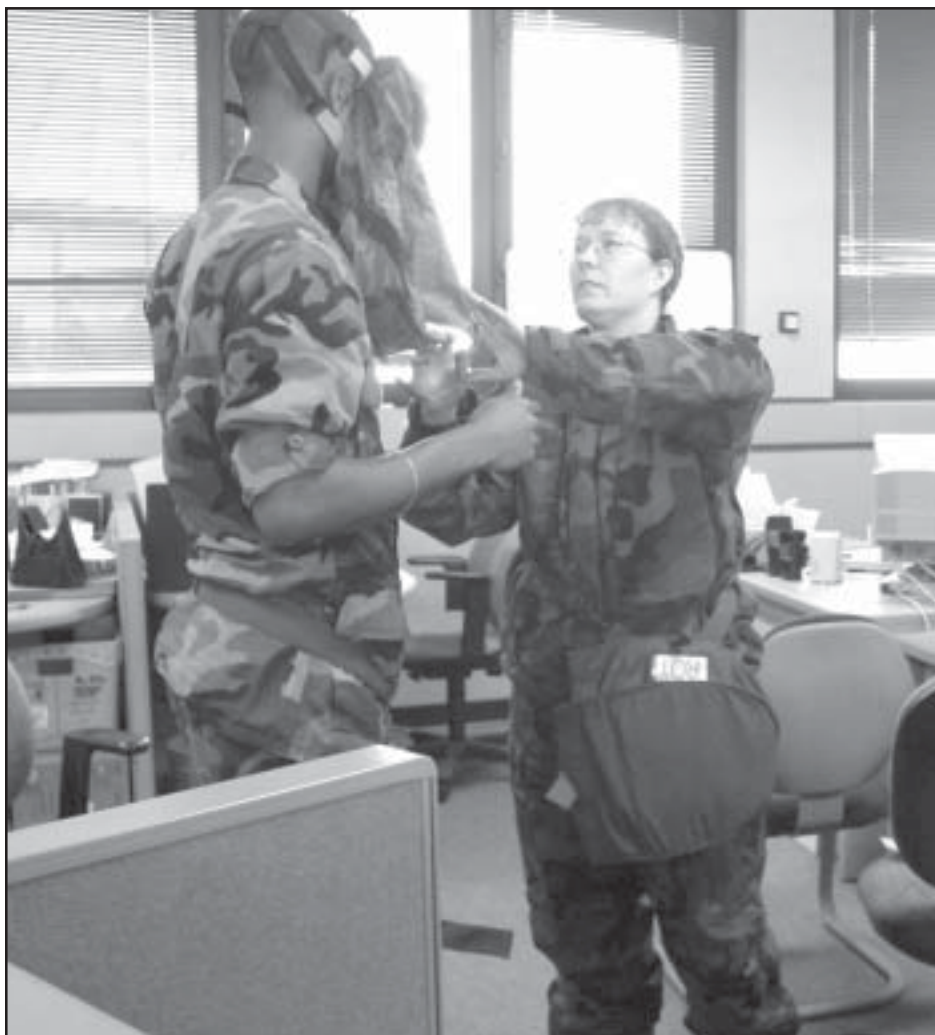
Because of the printing and mail-out schedule the newspaper goes to press on Friday, two weeks prior to the UTA. The submission deadline for articles or information is the Wednesday two weeks prior to the UTA.

For information about this schedule, call Jeff Melvin at (334) 953-7874.

Getting inspection ready



Above, Senior Master Sgt. Geoff Percival and other 908th CES members clean and inspect M-16 rifles. CES set up a series of training stations at Camp Blue Thunder to accomplish wartime training required to maintain the unit's combat readiness in conjunction with the wing-wide exercise Oct. 5. Right, aircraft structural maintenance technicians senior Airmen Durwin Law (left) and Gordon Thomas shoot rivets on a nose bracket during a repair.



Photos by Jeff Melvin



Left, Senior Master Sgt. Amos Moore, 908AW Command Chief Master Sgt., in MOPP 4. Far left, Master Sgt. Martha Roy gives fellow military personnel flight member Ann. Damion Howell some pointers on donning the gas mask properly.

Rotation in paradise

Continued from Page 1

world situation it just means so much more. All of the personnel I have been around speak highly of this operation and have had great learning experiences while deployed," said "B package" maintenance officer 2nd Lt. Carmel Weed Jr.

Limited ramp space, high ops tempo, the weather and working hand in hand with another wing proved challenging, Weed said, but "overall, it's rewarding to be able to deploy somewhere and do the job that you have been trained to do."

Coronet Oak's appealing

location mandates that deploying reservists are advised, "It's okay to have a good time, but the mission comes first."

The 908th has never presented a problem, Wright said.

"Maxwell has always done a good job. In fact, it's nice to have a unit that has the expertise to roll in and you don't have to oversee as much. They're pretty independent and do a good job. I've never had a complaint about the 908th. One of the yardsticks we use at the end of a rotation is the wing commander asks, 'Are we welcome back,' and of course, the 908th is."



Master Sgts. Roger Butler and Michael Lloyd conduct a shift change briefing.



An Air National Guard C-130 returns to Muñiz Air National Guard Base, Puerto Rico, after a resupply mission.

Coronet Oak facts file

■ The Guard and Reserve support the Coronet Oak mission year round. Units rotate in and out of Muniz ANGB every two weeks.

■ AFRC Coronet Oak operations began Oct. 1, 1977, when the 442nd Tactical Airlift Wing, Richards-Gebaur AFB, Mo., deployed to Panama, replacing the active-duty Air Force C-130 units that had been supporting Coronet Oak on a rotational basis since 1962. The mission moved to Muniz in June 1999.

■ Guard and Reserve C-130 units have been instrumental in many vital operations since their arrival in the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility. They were the first into Guyana following the tragedy at Jonestown, and evacuated some 1,600 U.S. and third-country nationals from Nicaragua during the civil war. They have also airlifted relief supplies to many countries throughout Central America and the Caribbean following natural disasters.

■ The Coronet Oak mission is of great benefit to the Reserve. Aircrews are committed to a year-round, deployed, real-world operational mission. Because of the varied types of missions the reservists fly and the physical environment in Latin America, aircrews are exposed to almost every type of flying, over some of the most dense jungles in the world.

■ Coronet Oak is cost effective. It costs less to rotate elements of Guard and Reserve C-130 units through Muniz ANGB than to station a C-130 squadron in Puerto Rico permanently, which would require stationing all related maintenance and support equipment, facilities and additional personnel.

■ Coronet Oak offers an excellent example of the Total Force in action. Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units combine their resources to successfully fulfill Air Force mission requirements in Latin America. (Source: AFRC Fact Sheet 02-08, Coronet Oak C-130 Rotation)



Master Sgt. Van Hughes refills aircraft 38's liquid oxygen tank.



"B" package mission Commander Maj. Bert Medlock and Maj. Danny Quitno discuss mission details during the flight to from Maxwell to Muniz Aug. 31.



"A" package mission commander Maj. Bill Hughes listens intently during a mission planning session.



Master Sgt. Norm Vondra (foreground), Master Sgt. Archie Green (center), and 2nd Lt. Carmel Weed Jr. work to fix a problem with the dual rail system in one of the wing's C-130s.



Tech. Sgts. James "Dolly" Parten Jr. and Mike McGill perform the daily task of towing aircraft.

Photos by Jeff Melvin



Command post controller Tech. Sgt. Lamar Colbert reviews a checklist.

Sunday event honors 24's ascent to top NCO tier since March

An induction ceremony to honor wing members attaining the rank of master sergeant since March will be held Sunday, Nov. 3, at 8 a.m. in Polifka Auditorium of the Squadron Officer College.

"Enhancement and professional development of our enlisted personnel is of great importance," said event coordinator Senior Master Sgt. Joyce Voyles, 908MXS first sergeant.

Voyles added, "We invite all of the newest senior noncommissioned officers, their family and guests, commanders, first sergeants, flight chiefs and supervisors to share in this special occasion. Commander and management support is essential for the success of this program. Please plan to attend."

Senior NCO Ceremony Inductees

Name	Unit	DOR
Gilson, Marla D.	AES	1 Mar 02
Jones, Sharon L.	357AS	1 Mar 02
Stephens, Darrell J.	MG	1 Mar 02
Butler, Andrew C.	MSS	1 Apr 02
Parker, Roderick	MOF	1 Apr 02
Byrd, Jodie C.	AES	1 May 02
Caldwell, Leonard	MXS	1 May 02
Godwin, Byron I., III	SVF	1 May 02
Jenkins, Tracy D.	25APS	1 May 02
McFarland, Stephen W.	25APS	1 May 02
Morris, Leeander, Jr.	LRS	1 May 02
Murrell, Theresa A.	ASTS	1 May 02
Nelson, Phillip B.	CES	1 May 02
Railsback, Shawn R.	ASTS	1 May 02
Tubbs, Darrell M.	25 APS	1 May 02
Duke, Owen T., Sr.	SFS	1 Jul 02
Johnson, Woodard W., III	ASTS	1 Jul 02
Lawrence, Robert A.	25APS	1 Jul 02
Williams, Tracy O.	ASTS	1 Jul 02
Brackin, Jon K.	357AS	1 Sep 02
Brown, Danny R.	25APS	1 Sep 02
Campbell, George H.	LRS	1 Sep 02
Martin, Joseph L.,	MXS	1 Oct 02
Ray, Belinda	908AW	1 Oct 02

Law alone can't keep job

Reservists responsible for protecting rights

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Enacted by Congress in 1994, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act is designed to protect an individual's civilian job when he or she goes on active duty, voluntarily or involuntarily.

However, the individual must meet certain eligibility requirements to be protected by the law. Those provisions include:

- Holding a civilian job with some reasonable expectation for continued employment;
- Giving notice to the employer that he or she will be leaving the job

for service in the uniformed services, including Reserve component training;

- Being released from military service under honorable conditions;
- Not exceeding the five-year cumulative limit on periods of military service; and
- Applying for reemployment in a timely manner.

Members of Air Force Reserve and other reserve components can learn more about the USERRA laws by going to the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's Web site — www.esgr.com (AFRC News Service)

1994 law gives mobilized reservists reemployment rights after military service ends

By Kenny Pruitt
AFRC Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Reservists called to active duty in support of America's war on terrorism want and deserve assurance that they can return to their civilian job.

To help them, Congress passed the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act in 1994 to keep reservists out of the unemployment line after their military service commitment ends.

Prompted by the Gulf War as a replacement to the aging Veterans' Reemployment Rights Law, USERRA minimizes the problems that may occur when people are called away from their civilian jobs.

At one point during the war on terrorism, more than 14,000 Air Force Reserve members were mobilized. By early October 2002, that number dropped to 4,800 as reservists demobilized and returned home.

"The 1940 reemployment rights law had been amended so many times that it was confusing and cumbersome," said Capt. Samuel F. Wright of the Naval Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps. "Instead of coming up with 10 or 15 amendments, we decided to rewrite it."

With clearer wording and reduced red tape, USERRA addresses a number of issues, ranging from the reservists' responsibility to notify their employers to expanded reemployment rights for employees.

USERRA increases the anti-discrimination protection for reservists in hiring, retention and advancement on the basis of their military obligation. Furthermore, employers must make reasonable efforts to retrain or upgrade skills to qualify workers for reemployment following lengthy absences be-

cause of military obligation.

"If an employee can't get his or her exact job back, the employer should provide one with like pay and status," said Army National Guardsman Lt. Col. Jess Soto of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's national headquarters in Arlington, Va. "If employers cannot provide like pay and status, they must prove an undue hardship."

In addition, the law expands health care and employee benefit pension plan coverage. It also improves protection for disabled veterans and strengthens enforcement mechanisms for service members who believe their reemployment rights have been violated.

Among the act's most important provisions is the one that expands the length of time that a reservist can be away from civilian employment. With USERRA, an employee can perform duty up to a total of five cumulative years while employed by that employer and still retain his or her reemployment rights. Under the old law, the limit was four years.

Both laws permitted reservists to begin a fresh five-year/four-year limit upon starting a job with a new employer.

Wright said there are many kinds of duty that do not count against the five-year limit, such as unit training assemblies and involuntary deployments. As a result, Wright said, "The majority of reservists never get close to reaching the five-year limit."

What does count toward the five-year limit is

special training that is not categorized as professional development and volunteer duty assignments for non-critical requirements.

Educating reservists about the USSERA law is one of the roles of the ESGR headquarters, which was created in 1972 to keep conflicts between civilian employment and military duties to a minimum.

At the local level, each wing under the Air Force Reserve Command is expected to appoint a unit ESGR representative, who works with local Mission One volunteers to provide direct assistance to reservists in the unit. ESGR Mission One volunteers also act as a conduit to state ESGR ombudsmen, who are responsible for understanding the USSERA laws and representing reservists in disputes with employers.

If local efforts fail to resolve a conflict, reservists can contact an ESGR ombudsman directly for assistance by going through the HQ ESGR toll-free number 1-800-336-4590.

The headquarters now receives more than twice as many calls as it did before 9/11.

"Around 30 to 40 percent of the callers just want information," Soto said. "The number one question that reservists ask is 'Will I get the same job back when I go back to work.' Although the employee isn't 'bullet proof,' the law benefits the reservists and their families. ESGR is here to ensure both the reservist and the employer are familiar with that law." (AFRC News Service)

Problems With Your Employer?

You and your employer both have rights and obligations under federal law. For information or assistance

contact your area ESGR representative or contact Maj. Jerry Lobb in the 908th Public Affairs Office at 953-6804.

November UTA Schedule

Time	Time	Event	Location/OPR
Friday, Nov. 1, 2002			
1630	1900	Commanders' Staff Meeting	Bldg. 1056/CC Conference Room
Saturday, Nov. 2, 2002			
0730	0800	Sign In	Orderly Room
0730	0800	Newcomers' Flight Reception	Bldg. 1056/Rm 101/DPMT
0800	0830	Newcomers' Intro / Orientation	Bldg. 1056/Rm 101/DPMT
0820	1500	Physicals	Bldg. 760/First Floor
0830	1030	Shots (except Yellow Fever)	Bldg. 760/First Floor
0830	0900	Pregnancy Profiles/Weight Waivers/ Fitness for Duty (must have DD Form 689)	Bldg. 711/Records Room
0830	1030	Anthrax Briefings (30 min.)	Bldg. 760/First Floor
0830	1200	M-41 Mask Fit	Bldg. 1055/Rm 1
0930	1030	Unit Education & Training Managers' Mtg	Bldg. 1056/Cmd Chief's Conf Rm
0930	1000	TDY/PCS OutProcessing	Bldg. 1056/Rm 111, DPMSA
1000	1100	Disaster Preparedness Reps Training	Bldg. 1055
1030	1130	First Sergeants' Meeting	Golf Course Snack Bar
1230	1530	CDC Testing (Course 5 - SNCOA CD Rom Only)	Bldg. 1056/Rm 101/DPMT
1300	1500	Newcomers' MPF In-Processing	Bldg. 1056/Rm 101/DPMS
1300	1630	NBC Defense Training (R)	Bldg. 1154/Rm 119
1330	1400	Fitness for Duty (Must have DD Form 689)	Bldg. 711/Records Room
1500	1630	Gas Mask Issue	Bldg. 848/Center Bay
1700	TBD	Sign Out	Orderly Room
Sunday, Nov. 3, 2002			
0630	0700	Sign In	ORDERLY ROOM
0715	0815	PERSCO Training	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf. Room
0730	1130	NBC Defense Training (R)	Bldg. 1154/Rm 119
0800	0930	Senior NCO Induction Ceremony	SOC, Bldg. 1403, Polifka Auditorium
0815	0900	3SOX1 Training (All units)	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf.Rm
0830	1130	Pallet Build-up/Joint Inspection	25 APS (Various locations)
0830	0900	Fitness For Duty (Must Have DD Form 689)	Bldg. 711/Records Room
0900	0930	Worship Service (Recommended)	Bldg. 846/Classroom 2/25 APS
1000	1030	Worship Service (Recommended)	Bldg. 848/Classroom/COMF
1000	1100	Career Advisors Meeting	Bldg. 846/DPMSC
1100	1200	SORTS/Commander Meeting	Cmd Post/CAT Rm/CC
1100	1130	Worship Service (Recommended)	Bldg. 1056/Rm. 101/DPMT
1230	1530	CDC Testing	Bldg. 1056/Rm. 101/DPMT
1300	1400	Honor Guard Meeting	Bldg. 1056/Cmd. Chief Office
1300	1400	UTA Bulletin Meeting	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf. Room
1330	1430	Chiefs' Induction Ceremony	25 APS
1400	1500	HRDC	Bldg. 1056/CC Conf. Room
1400	1500	Chiefs Group Meeting	Bldg. 1056/Cmd. Chief's Office
1430	1500	Worship Service (Recommended)	Bldg. 1055/Classroom 2/CES
1600	TBD	Sign-out	Orderly Room

Support functions' schedule

Activity	Dates & hours of operation		Location/Ext.
MPF Customer Service	Sat, 1300-1700	Sun, 0900-1100	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
		Sun, 1200-1600	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
ID Cards	M-F, 0630-1630 Sat, 1300-1700	Sun, 0800-1100	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
		Sun, 1200-1600	Bldg. 1056/3-5522
Reserve Pay	M-F, 0700-1100; 1200-1600	Sat, 0800-1600	Bldg. 1056/3-6722
Medical Records	Sat, 0800-1500	Sun, Closed	Bldg. 711/3-5714
Individual Equipment	Sat, 0800-1530		Bldg. 1154/3-6020
Clothing Sales	Sat, 0900-1500		Bldg. 851/3-7505
Restricted Area Badges	M-F, 0630-1600	Sat, 0800-1200	Bldg. 84/3-4283
Vehicle Registration	M-F, 0730-1600	Sat, 0800-1200	Bldg. 84/3-4283
Geneva Convention Cards	M-F, 0730-1600	Sat, 0800-1200	Bldg. 84/3-4283
Dining Hall	Sat, 0600-0930	Sun, 0600-0930	Bldg. 668/3-5127
	1100-1300	1100-1300	
	1600-1830	1600-1830	
Lodging office/reservations (lodging problems, contact 908th rep via lodging front desk)			Bldg. 1573/3-2401
Photo lab	M-F, 0730-1630	Sun, 1300-1500	Bldg. 926/3-7981

FY 03 UTA Dates

Dec. 7-8; Jan. 11-12, 03; Feb. 8-9, 03; March 8-9, 03; April 5-6, 03;
May 3-4, 03; June 7-8, 03; July 12-13, 03; Aug. 9-10, 03; Sept. 6-7, 03

November UTA Lodging

To access the Lodging Reservation System, please follow these instructions:

- * Make reservations, cancellations or changes at least 24 hours prior to arrival.
- * Call Maxwell at 1-800-673-9356
- * Input your unit's authorization code
- * Dial the system at 3-8557 or 3-8558
- * The system will ask for your SSAN, which you will input with the telephone keypad
- * The system will ask for your personal ID number, followed by the "#" sign. (PIN is available through your First Sergeant or Services 3-7332)
- * The system will ask if you would like to make, change, or cancel a reservation.
- * To make a reservation, input arrival date and then departure date.
- * You will be asked if the reservation is ADT, IDT, or both (ADT: Annual Tour, Mandays, Special Tour) (IDT: UTA, AFTP, RMP, Make-up UTA)
- * If this is a scheduled UTA weekend, the system will tell you where you will be staying
- * If you cancel or change a reservation, you will be prompted for a phone number.
- * **The confirmation number you receive is for 908th Services use only.**

Note: You can also call the system direct DSN or Commercial. The numbers are: DSN 493-8557/8558 or COMM: (334) 953-8557/8558.

If you have a question please contact Master Sgt. Byron Godwin at:
Commercial: (334) 953-7332
DSN:493-7332
E-mail: byron.godwin@maxwell.af.mil
Emergency cell: (334) 301-3476

Notice! Checkout time at Maxwell Lodging for the November UTA is 0800 Sunday. If you do not have time to go to the front desk, and do not have a phone charge, there will be a key drop box located in Bldg. 157 (Main Lodging) for your convenience. Please do not use this box if you have any charges on your bill. In accordance with AFI 34-246 **smoking is not permitted in lodging rooms.** You may be charged a minimum of \$50 for cleaning for violating this AFI.

Airlift will be lodged at the Hampton Inn, Prattville.

Airlift Schedule

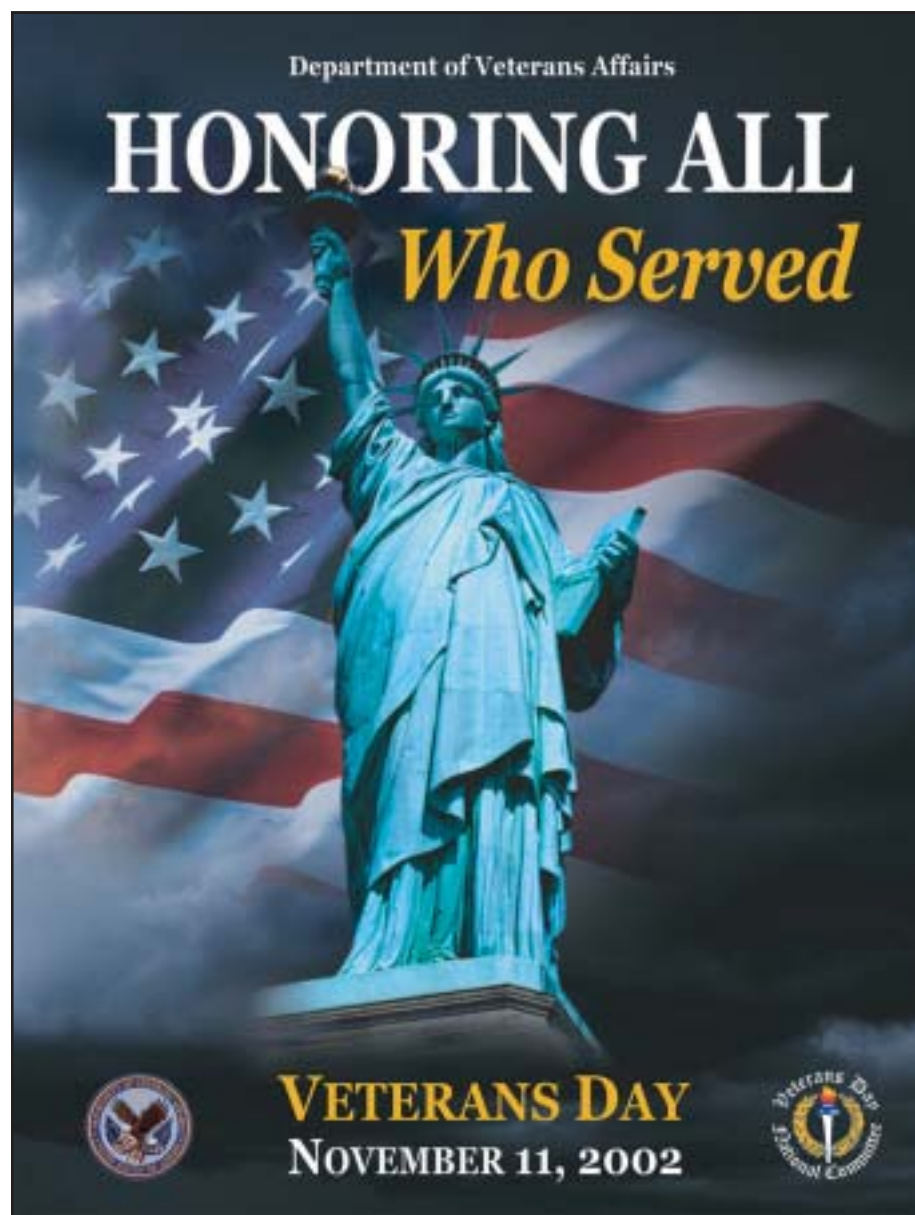
Aurora Airlift
UTA pick-up schedule Friday:
Depart Maxwell at 1530 local
Arrive Aurora at 1800 local
Depart Aurora at 1815 local
Arrive Maxwell at 2030 local

UTA return schedule Sunday:
Bus departs Bldg. 1056 at 1530
Depart Maxwell at 1600 local
Arrive Aurora at 1830 local
Depart Aurora at 1845 local
Arrive Maxwell at 2100 local

Huntsville/Dobbins Airlift
UTA pick-up schedule Friday:
Depart Maxwell at 1700 local
Arrive Dobbins at 1845 local
Depart Dobbins at 1915 local
Arrive Huntsville at 1845 local
Depart Huntsville at 1915 local
Arrive Maxwell at 1945 local

UTA return schedule Sunday:
Depart Maxwell at 1600 local
Note change: Arrive Huntsville at 1645 local
Depart Huntsville at 1700 local
Arrive Dobbins at 1845 local
Depart Dobbins at 1900 local
Arrive Maxwell at 1845 local

Take Note



Area city pays tribute to veterans

The American Veteran's Traveling Tribute, the largest scale replica of the Vietnam Wall, will be on view Nov. 7-11 in Tallassee, Ala., as part of a Veteran's Day tribute sponsored by the City of Tallassee and the Tallassee Area Chamber of Commerce.

Other related activities include a fly-over by a wing C-130, display of the world's largest POW/MIA flag, a replica of the statue commemorating women's roles in Southeast Asia, military static displays and demonstrations,

and art exhibits. Admission is free. The site will be open to the public from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. A limited number of vendors located near the site will offer souvenirs, food and refreshments.

The AVTT will be located in East Tallassee on Highway 14 about ¼ mile from the intersection of Hwy 14 and Macedonia Road or "just past the Amoco station in the fork in the road." From I-85 take Exit 26, proceed about 9.1 miles on Highway 229 to the first traffic light, turn right onto Barnett Boulevard

(also Hwy 14), cross the bridge over the Tallapoosa River and continue on Hwy 14 about 1 ½ miles. The site will be on the right.

The event's organizers also encourage attendees to visit the "Battles for the Armory" reenactment, take advantage of tours of historic sites offered by the area historical preservation society or enjoy motorcross racing at nearby Monster Mountain.

For additional information, contact the chamber at (334) 283-5151 or via the web or e-mail at chamber@tallassee.al.us.

Congratulations to the following people:

Promotions
Corrections

Last month's promotion list contained two errors, the corrected promotions follow.

...to Chief Master Sgt.
Reynold P. Cecchi,
25APS
...to Senior Master Sgt.
Antone Jackson,
25APS

November Retirements

Senior Master Sgt.
John A. Pickering Jr.,
MXS
Master Sgt. **Jimmie Smith,** MXS
Tech. Sgt. **Janice W. Abrams,** LSS
Tech. Sgt. **Leander S. Cobbs,** CES
Tech. Sgt. **Larry Pritchett,** 25APS

908ers earn CCAF degrees

Tech. Sgt. **Gregory T. Benjamin,** 25APS, Transportation
Senior Airman **Kenneth L. Brown,** CES, Human Resource Management
Senior Airman **William R. Fletcher,** 908AW, Aviation Operations
Tech. Sgt. **Cassandra Hailes,** 25APS, Transportation
Tech. Sgt. **Michael Haynes,** MXS, Avionic Systems Technology
Master Sgt. **Larry R. Laird,** MXS, Aircraft Systems Maintenance Technology
Staff Sgt. **Brady G. Newman,** MXS, Avionic Systems Technology
Tech Sgt. **Teresa L. Stone,** ASTS, Logistics
Master Sgt. **Janice M. Turner,** ASTS, Allied Health Sciences
Master Sgt. **Laura E. Wilson-Leonard,** ASTS, Healthcare Management

Council meets in January

The next Human Resource Development Council meeting is scheduled for Saturday Jan. 11, 2003 at 1 p.m. in the Wing Commander's Conference Room; Bldg 1056.

Tuition assistance increases

The Reserve increased a student's maximum tuition assistance per semester from \$187.50 to \$250 for undergraduate work, reimbursing reservists for 100 percent of the

tuition cost up to \$4,500 annually for education programs offered by Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support.

Last year the Reserve raised the maximum annual aid for reservists from \$2,500 to \$3,500 and expanded tuition assistance for the DANTES distant learning program to include master's degrees.

The master's degree program remains the same.

Wing reservists can learn more about the eligibility requirements and program features from wing education and training offices at DSN 493-6771.

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